The Indian Poultry Gazette.

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FROM THE EDITORS CHAIR.

By the time the November Gazette is in the hands of our readers all thoughts will be on the finishing touches to their birds for the All India.

Still the information keeps coming in of new breeds and new Exhibitors to say nothing of a revival of the old school which are coming along again this year to show us that they have still got a say in the matter when it comes to poultry breeding.

From Rajputana we hear at least twenty entries will be sent, from South India and the Madras Presidency we are to meet new exhibitors and with the Rangoon, English, and other up country birds, as well as, the usual breeders who turn up year after year and bring their birds with them.

We are pleased to say the Exhibition fund has advanced to very nearly four figures and elsewhere will be found a list of subscribers further to those published in the October Gazettee.

Many new members and Exhibitors are making the mistake of sending their entry forms to this office and for those who have not as yet sent theirs in but who might make the same mistake we would advise all intending exhibitors that entries should be sent direct to the Hon. Show Secretary Mr. W. E. J. Yule and as Mr. Yule has now come down to Calcutta his address is 2 Fancy Lane, Calcutta.

In submitting entry forms this year special care should be taken and the schedule carefully read through first as with this, our first, one section show things are not quite the same as before.

Breeders have had a whole year in which to alter their types as we drew attention to this early in the new year and told the breeder that in future his bird had to be a good exhibltion specimen ALSO show utility points and for those of us who went home from the last All India and took another look round our pens before mating up for this year we shall send down a bird that combines these two requirements.

Gone is the day when the Rhode Island with a bunch of flights or secondries that were almost white could be shown in a 'Utility' class when it had no more claims to utility than its better plumaged brother or sister in the Exhibition section and we cannot but think that this is a step forward toward producing the ideal bird.

Another point for exhibitors is that owing to a little argument we raised last year the 'Suket' Cup will be judged before the class judging as it is very hard on the exhibitor of the white bird who sends his bird to the show looking a picture and after having been penned for 2 days loses its clean trim appearance and does not stand the chance a black or red bird does.

A notification for members of the Rhode Island Club of India which should be marked is that the Hon. Secretaryship has now changed hands and all correspondence should be addressed to Mr.s J. A. Foden at this office in stead of Mr. C. J. Lumsden.

On behalf of members of this specialist Club we tender our great thanks to Mr. Lumsden for his untiring work for the Club and hope that though he is resigning this office he will still let us see some of his Reds in the next show.

It is hoped to have the December Gazette out and in the hands of all subscribers before they need to leave for the Exhibition but in cases where the Gazette has to go a long way and may cross members coming down to the show we wish one and all every success they wish themselves, shall look forward to meeting old friends at the Exhibition and to making the acquaintance of many new friends in the fancy whom as yet we have only met through the medium of the post.

NOTICE. According to rule two we regret to announce the suspension from membership to the Club of Mr. P. Bhattacharyya until such time as his transaction with Messrs. Richardson & Co. is satisfactorily settled.

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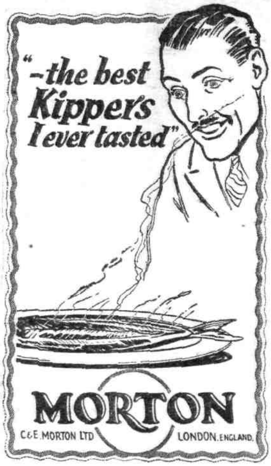

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From—The Hon. Editor,

INDIAN POULTRY GAZETTE,

NARAYANGUNGE, E. B.

CHICKEN POX—IS IT DEADLY ?

Simple Methods for its Prevention and Cure.

The other day we were talking with one of the best authorities in the country on the scares that are being periodically caused by the awe inspiring announcements of some of our scientists. In the course of our chat he denounced strongly those men who say that when chicken pox attacks a stud the only cure is—death. Our friend has 3,000 to 4,000 birds under his care, and he told us that never yet had he failed to cure an outbreak of chicken pox, and never had he been forced to kill any of his birds that were attacked.

Our Contemporary, "Poultry," of Sydney, Australia, has attached to its staff Mr. Norman D. Kay., F. Inst. F.C., and he is recognised in Austraiia as a a scientific writer on poultry diseases, who is also very practical.

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A few days after our talk above mentioned we were glancing at our exchange copy from Australia and curiously enough its chief article for the week was one by Mr. Kay on chicken pox. We, therefore present extracts from it to our readers.

Mr. Kay commences by stating : Much progress has been made recently in the prevention of warts, or chicken pox, by the injection of special vaccines ; but there is still a distinct demand for preventive, medicinal aids. Until such time as the vaccine method is generally accepted, we must resort to rational, medicinal and hygienic methods in prevention and treatment. In this article, I tell the good news of an improved tonic-preventive ; and I have collected and reviewed the confusing variety of external remedies, indicating the best, and showing how they may be used to better advantage. He then goes on to speak of.

Watching for the Warts.

Poultrymen carefully watch their young birds for signs of the dreaded chicken pox, or warts ; and in spite of the fact that this disease is very common it is nevertheless much misunderstood. Many practical men, with years of experience make the mistake of regarding the warts as the disease itself. Unfortunately the unsightly warts are merely a phenomenon of the disease—an outward mark of a more serious, inward condition of ill-health.

If chicken pox consisted of nothing more than the warts, its cure would simple ; but, as many of us know, the disease in much more general in its effect than that. The warts may incapacitate a bird, or even cause its death, by spreading over the head in such a manner as to prevent the bird from taking sufficient nourishment ; but such a condition is merely a secondary effect. The big tragedy of the disease is that it seriously lowers the egg production of young stock just at the period when the eggs are most required. Early-hatched chicks are specially liable to contract the disease. When the vaccine method of prevention is brought to its ultimate state of perfection, it will be possible to enjoy the advantages of early hatching ; and the technical staff of "Poultry" is doing everything possible to bring about that happy result. Apart from the lowering of egg production for the time being, the general effect of chicken pox is to devitalise the birds ; and from very careful observations during many post-mortem dissection, I am forced to believe that a severe attack of this disease leaves a strain of constitutional weakness in the birds.

Chicken pox is due to the activity of a specific micro-organism, or virus ; and for all practical purposes it may be regarded as a blood disease. For this reason it is obviously necessary to treat the trouble in a general way, as well as the purely local treatment of the warts. Of course, prevention is always better than cure ; and after watching results closely for nearly eight years, I am now in a position to offer an extremely simple formula for a preventive mixture to use in the mash.

Eight Years Ago.

In 1923 I was approached by Mr. David Dutch, who showed me a formula which he was endeavouring to work up for use as a chicken-pox preventive. After considerable experimentation, I removed one ingredient from the formulla, afterwards rebalancing the mixture ; and a trial lot was compounded, which Mr. Dutch began to use on his farm. His previous record was 75 per cent of warts amongst the young birds—a heart-breaking experience for a man new to

the game; but during the past eight years Mr. Dutch has been proud to show a poultry farm practically free from chicken pox. With the best interests of the industry at heart, this worthy gentleman has freely shared the formula with several others; and these fortunate people are eloquent in their praise of the mixture. With the gracious concurrence of Mr. Dutch, I now have pleasure in making known the formula. Its very simplicity will probably prevent its value from being immediately recognised but after watching an eight-year period of practical testing, I have the utmost confidence in the results of the accurate compounding and use of the mixture.

The main idea is to incorporate in the mash a simple mineral tonic, stimulant, and aperient in dry powder form, thus making sure that every bird obtains its quota at the critical period. To make the mixture, grind together the following ingredients:—

Epsom salts 8oz., iron sulphate 4oz., ground ginger 3½oz., calcium phosphate ½oz.

These quantities make one pound of mixture, and large quantities may easily be prepared in proportion. It is very necessary to be sure that the iron sulphate is of good quality; and it is also important to take a little trouble in making sure that the four ingredients are finally and thoroughly ground together.

Beginning the first week when warts first appear give one dose per week of this preparation making sure that it is evenly and throughly incorporated in the mash. The maximum dose is 4oz. per 100 head of stock; but if the treatment begins early in the season, it is just as well to lead up gradually to the 4oz. dose. Begin wih 1oz. per 100 head; and next week give 2oz; and so on, until the maximum dose of 4oz. has been reached. This full dose should be given once per week, always on the same day, until the danger period for chicken pox is over. Then reverse the procedure, gradually decreasing the dose until it is stopped.

If these simple directions are faithfully carried out, and care is taken throughly to mix the dose right through the mash, so that each bird gets it share, the formula and method will give great satisfaction as a chicken pox preventive. It is not claimed that this is an absolute preventive—that would be reaching Utopia; but years of practical experience have proved that the mixture will faithfully reduce the scourage to a negligible minimum.

To grind the materials fine is an important point; and when the merits of the mixture have been proved, it will be well worth any poultryman's while to purchase an iron mortar and pestle for the purpose. That useful piece of apparatus has a hundred applications to the work of the farm, and only costs a few rupees.

General Treatment of the Disease.

From methods of preventing chicken pox we now pass naturally to the consideration of right methods for treating the disease where it is already in evidence. We will first consider the general scheme of treatment, remembering that we are dealing with a condition having its roots in the blood; and although it has been scientifically proved that mosquitoes are quite capable of infecting birds with the virus of the disease, those pestilential insects are by no means essential to the outbreak of warts.

When the trouble first begins, the birds show general signs of sickness; and tiny, yellow blets—soon to be warts—appear on face, beak, comb, lobes, etc. If a layer, egg production is immediately lowered, and there is a noticeable tendency towards loss of appetite. When these signs appear it is by no means too late to begin the special mixture given above—it will do much to check the trouble; and in any case the first thing to be done is to administer some kind of aperient. If the mixture is not used, the standard procedure is to give Epson salts, or sodium sulphate, in the drinking water. One oz. to the gallon every third day is satfsfactory quantity; and at the same time, a little potassium permanganate should be added to the drinking water every day, as it helps to prevent the spreading of infection by means of the common drinking trouble. If you will be content to use only small quantities, the permanganate may be used every day without harm; and it is only necessary to add sufficient of the antiseptic to make the water distinctly tinted. The best method is to keep on hand a large bottle of concentrated solution; and when the drinking water is changed daily it is very simple to add sufficient, judging the strength by the eye. The permanganate is quite compatible with either Epson salts, or sodium sulphate; so it is quite harmless to give these substances in combination.

It should be here said that no metal vessel should be used for medicated water, only earthenware.

THE MONTH'S EGG DISH.

Eggs-en-Cocotte.

INGREDIENTS.

6 eggs, 2 ozs. Minced Chicken, ½ gill cream, cayenne, salt and pepper. 1 oz. butter and a little parsley.

METHOD.

Well butter six small china souffle cases or small cocotte pans, put a little piece of butter in the bottom of each and add about 1 small dessert-spoonful of cream, a pinch of salt, pepper and nutmeg.

Break the eggs and drop one into each case and sprinkle a tiny pinch of cayenne on the centre of each. Place the cases or pans in a baking sheet in a fairly hot oven for about 6 minutes until the eggs are creamily set but not overcooked. Chop the meat very finely and when the eggs are removed from the oven sprinkle over the whites, leaving the centres free. Place on a hot dish covered with a d'oyley, garnish with springs of parsley and serve at once hot.

During an attack of chicken pox a little extra green feed should be given when possible.

Under ordinary circumstances three or four weeks should see young, virile birds practically over the chicken pox. The simple general treatment, outlined above, should, of course, be combined with local, external treatment of the warts. In dealing with this disease it is most important to follow out both the general and local treatment at the same time; and having dealt with the general aspect, we will pass on to a consideration of the local treatment of the unsightly warts.

How to Treat the Warts.

In the external treatment of warts, we aim to apply a medicinal substance combining antiseptic, drying, and astringent properties. It must be antiseptic, in order to destroy the concentration of pathogenic micro-organisms; it must be drying, in order to assist the scab to fall away, and it must be somewhat astringent, so that it will prevent bleeding and close the wound. The remedy should also be either staining or viscid, so that sufficient may be applied in one or two dressing; and nearly all the preparations I am about to mention meet with these several requirements.

(To be continued in December.)

BREEDING POULTRY HOW TO START.

A Problem that Puzzles Beginners.

By C. A. House, Editor of "Poultry World"

A question that is often asked of those in charge of a poultry journal is, "How would you advise me to start?" This question is one that puzzles nearly every beginner. It is a question that should be asked, and it is one that requires very great care in answering. Let me say right away that the answer is not the same to everyone. Much depends on what knowledge and experience the questioner has, and the circumstances in which he is placed. In an article of this kind one can only deal with generalities. Individual cases need special thought and answer.

A Question of Cash.

If one has not a superfluity of cash, but has the time and convenience for hatching and rearing, an economica method of starting is by the purchase of a few sittings of eggs from some well-known breeder. One who has a reputation as a breeder of high-class exhibition stock, or as a breeder of laying competition birds.

Much depends upon the man you buy from. He must be a man of good repute, one who can be trusted. It must, regretfully, be said that there are those who do not always sell what they profess to do in their advertisements. That is why I emphasise the buying from a man who has a good reputation, not only as a breeder, but also as a good, straightforward fancier.

Many fanciers who have gained a high position in the exhibition world have started their career as fanciers by buying one or two sittings of eggs from a good, honest breeder.

Starting in this way, the outlay is small, and if one should be successful in getting chicks which are only fit to carry on the work of breeding.

One must not expect to breed a winner every time out a of sitting bought in this fashion. One may from some reason or other quite beyond the control of the seller of the eggs have a bad hatch.

BRITISH POULTRY FARMS.
THE RUNS ON MR. S. DEWAR'S FARM. HOMESTALL FARM EAST GRINSTEAD.
By kind permission of "Poultry World".

When it is remembered that our big breeders hatch out hundreds of chicks to get one or two winners, one can hardly expect it from a single sitting ; yet it does happen. Breeding is more or less a lottery, and one must never forget that the champion of the year can only come from one egg.

Day Old Chicks.

On the utility side of the poultry industry many a good start has been made with the purchase of a batch of day old chicks. In fact, the buying of day old chicks is a system that is regularly followed by some who are established Poultry keepers. They will not be bothered with the hatching, but they take all the risks of rearing. Among such are those whose chief work is egg production. General farmers, too, are among those who buy large quantities of day old chicks.

This being so, it is proof that it is not a bad plan for the new beginner to follow. This method avoids the work of hatching, and it eliminates all possibilities of a poor hatch. This method means the outlay of more capital than if eggs are bought for sitting. This is only reasonable, because the risk of the bad hatch has been taken by the breeder, and he has had the labour and trouble attached to the incubation of the chicks. In a general way, the cost of day old chicks is double that of sitting eggs, and this gives the breeder a fair return on his capital invested in stock and plant, and it gives the buyer a clear start.

The Best Way.

There is one other way of making a start in Poultry keeping, and that is, in my opinion, the best way. It certainly is the most satisfactory, because the buyer is able to see right away just what he is getting for his money. That way is the purchasing of a breeding pen of birds.

When a new beginner buys a pen of birds he should do so in the autumn. He then learns much about birds and their ways before he has to bother his head about breeding. It means that he can get his birds into condition, so that their eggs may be certain to be fertile at the time when he wants to start hatching. It ensures that the eggs used for incubation are fresh at the time when wanted.

This method is the most expensive way at the start, but it is the best. It gives one a foundation stock right at the start, and enables the owner to do far better when he comes to mate up his pens for the second season. The knowledge gained more than repays for the extra outlay.

Never Over Buy.

Now, whichever of the three methods the beginner adopts he should be careful not to ever buy. It is far wiser to go slow at first. Thus, if breeding birds are bought, one pen is sufficient ; if day old chicks fifty is better than one hundred, and if the start is made with eggs, one or two sittings is better than twenty. Many failures come about because beginners over stock themselves before they have learned the elementary rules which should govern their work.

One other bit of useful advice I might give. No beginner should spend money in eggs, birds, or appliances, until he has learned at least the theory of Poultry breeding, and the best way for him to do this is to purchase a reliable handbook.

WATCH YOUR VENTILATORS.

Keep the Houses Dry.

One common failing among poultry-keepers is neglect to study ventilation.

Ventilation means abundance of fresh air, especially at night, when the birds are close together on the perches. Some colony houses are so arranged that the greater part of three sides may be opened up, while others open only in front.

Some arrangement must be made whereby unlimited fresh air is available, especially during hot weather. A chicken, because of its respiratory organs performing numerous functions not carried on by the bodies of other farm stock, requires a larger amount of air in comparison to the size of its body.

The breath of poultry is laden with an extra amount of moisture and certain poisonous by-products. If these are breathed in again and again, as must be the case in poorly ventilated houses, the result is lowered vitality and increased susceptibility to disease.

Plan the ventilation of the colony and other houses so that these impurities will be carried out of the house continually and replaced by fresh air, but it should be done without causing draughts to blow directly across the birds on the perches. Fresh air ensures dryness in the poultry house.

A POSER.

Which is the mother of the chick—the hen that lays the egg or the one that hatches it? A contemporary declares that a hen that hatches an egg which she did not lay is not the dam of the chick. In fact, she's no blood relation—only a foster-mother. By the same token, an incubator has no standing whatsoever, being neither mother, godmother or even an in-law, it becomes merely sort of a chaperon. If this keen interest in chicken ancestry continues, every poultry raiser will have to add a hen's "Who's Who?" to his hatchery. Going a step further, in order to trace the genealogy of so-called "spring chickens" served in restaurants, we will have to resort to Burke's Peerage, may be, or to the Book of Genesis.

An Artist Needed.

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Bride: "Drawn; Oh, yes, please! I'll show the picture to my husband"

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POULTRY KEEPING ON COMMERCIAL BASIS.

By Cavas Jusawalla.

Looking to the articles for sale, the egg, I believe, is the most common object ever offered. There is not a place in the world where eggs cannot be had. With all its popularity there is an ever increasing demand for this every day necessity. To know it better one should realise to what different use it can be put to ; where would the housewife be without it ? No pastry is complete without it, no dinner full without it.

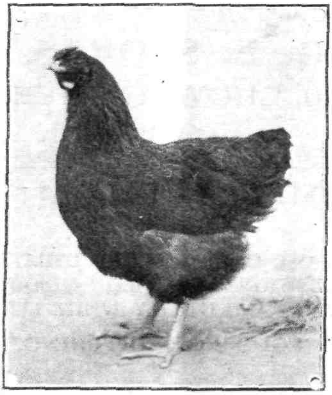
There is a demand throughout the year for this indispensible little article. of all the farm products this is the easiest to sell. In foreign countries the egg industry has received a great impetus ; farms are run on best commercial basis, people are making their living by it ; while here in India we still ask whether poultry farming would pay.

How many farms are there in India doing solely poultry business ? How many individuals are making a living by poultry keeping?—very few if there are any at all.

To keep a few fancy birds and ask for fancy prices for them and their products is not poultry farming, it should include breeding, stocking, fattening, preserving, etc.

The Government have not helped this branch of agriculture as they have others, in fact not much is thought of this industry ; even people in the agricultural line think it hardly worth while to include this branch in agricultural institutions.

The set back that poultry farming has received in India is due to the too common bazaar eggs—the 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. egg—these are sold at about annas 7 to the dozen on an average and it is really difficult to compete with these at a higher price for better size and quality of egg.



A TYPICAL PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTE HEN.
By kind permission of 'Poultry World'.

On a poultry farm where eggs are the chief aim the "desi" bird would be out of question, surely one cannot run a farm with these birds yielding less than hundred eggs per annum as against the English giving 150 to 200 and of a much bigger size and better colour. The desi birds are not to be thrown away, we can cross-breed and improve them for both egg and table purpose and use them for hatching and rearing chickens.

Of the English breed the Leghorn class would be the best to start with, as it is the easiest to breed from and rear, gets climatised soon, lays well and requiries feed in moderation. According to Dr. Jordan of the New York Experimental station "The Leghorn is the most efficient transformer of raw material into the finished product than others at the farm" yet its a pity that a fowl is the last thing to be found on an Indian farm.

With our Indian climate, cheap food rate and so much waste land we can simply work wonders with poultry, and compete with China in its monopoly in eggs ; only if a proper start is made and when the start is made want of proper support and lack of funds let the matter go no further.

It seemed that the Ranikhet has sounded the knell of the poultry interest that was gradually increasing. It took away birds by the score and many a fancier thought it waste of time, labour and money, trying with fowls, however, it is less now and this and the recent press topics that there is going to be ready sale for large size eggs should once more give many a crestfallen poultyman heart again to improve the fowls out in India and in years to come establish strong, hardy birds that would give large white eggs and think below them to lay anything less than 200 per year.

Once we start exporting eggs and secure foreign markets for our products poultry farming would more than pay its way. If the Indian Poultry Club take up Mr. G. M. B's suggestion and form a Co-operative Society every poultry keeper should help and support it in whatever way he or she can, and thereby lay a real good foundation for commercial poultry farming in India.

She was visiting the Poultry Show for the first time having only seen dezi murghys in the outstations of Baluchistan and was gathering as much information about the many breeds of fowls exhibited.

Eventually she came to the Asils.

"Are these birds carnivorous ?" she asked the Hon. Show Secretary. He scratched his head and then smiled brightly.

"They was, ma, am", he answered, "But they' re all right since we washed "em in carbolic".

TESTING FOR FERTILITY

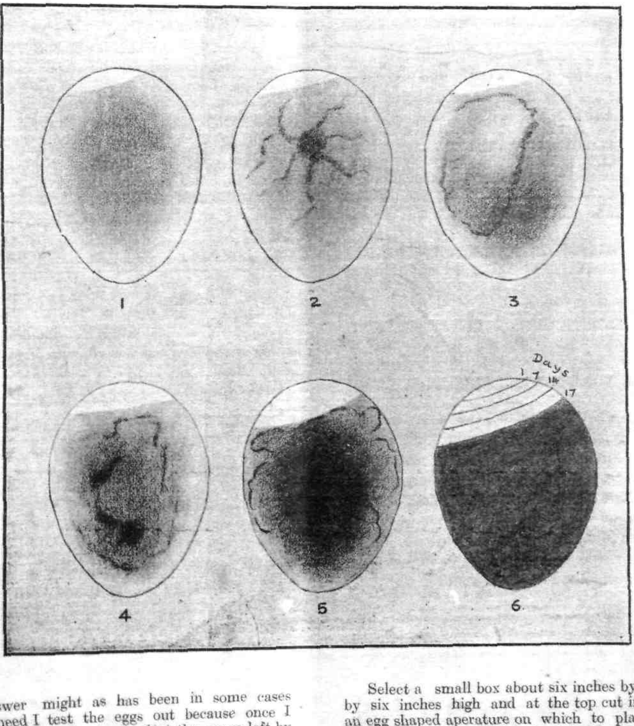
By The Editor.

At this time of the year when hatching is about to be commenced a few hints on testing the eggs for fertility will be welcomed by the novice on this subject.

It is surprising how many novices I have met and with whom I have discussed the matter of testing out their eggs, they have been absolutely ignorant of how to test out all addled or infertile eggs from their machines or hens.

Herein lies the trouble. Eggs that have been subjected to the heat necessary for incubation to take place if infertile after a few days throw off an obnoxious odour which can be very detrimental to the other good eggs still in process of incubation if they are not removed from the machine or hen and to find out which of our eggs have either not started to incubate or, due to weakness of the germ, fault of the hen or machine, have addled we therefore must test out for the best results.

As regards the tester this is easily made and the one I prefer is made out of a small box and a flash lamp or pocket torch.



The answer might as has been in some cases "but why need I test the eggs out because once I have placed them for incubation the space left by eggs that have been thrown out cannot be utilised so that as I do not know how to test properly why worry ?"

Select a small box about six inches by six inches by six inches high and at the top cut in the ceutre an egg shaped aperature on which to place the egg that has to be tested. It is advisable to gum a piece of black felt or material 'round the side of the aperature so as to exclude any light from the torch escaping and blinding the eye of the tester.

At the side of the box a small door should be made and inside directly under the aperature so that it is within an inch of the centre of the aperature should be placed an ordinary pocket flash lamp.

When testing is to be done the lamp is switched on and the door closed so as to stop all escape of light and the eggs are then placed one by one on to the aperature and exactly what is going on inside can be seen by the operator who puts the good eggs on one side or back under the hen, and the positively infertile or addled eggs are put away so that the poultryman, who is ever keen to find out things, can open them up for inspection if he wishes.

Eggs that you are not certain about should be marked with a "D" for doubtful with a pencil and put back under the hen for further reference next time testing is done.

Testing is best done on 7th and 15th day.

But the novice has said "But how shall I know which is fertile and which is not" so we now look at the plate.

Figure 1 is a fresh egg and it is as well said that the age of the egg can be told by the air cell at the big end of the egg.

In a fresh egg the air cell is very small, hardly noticable and as the age of the egg increases and it is exposed to evaporisation of the liquid contents so the size of the air cell increase.

Figure 2 is a fertile egg at the end of seven days incubation. This it will be observed looks like a spider with a number of legs reaching out to all parts of the egg. The centre is the embryo chick and the 'legs' are the blood arteries reaching out for the nourishment needed by the embryo which is mainly oxygen so that we now see why we should discard all infertile eggs as they give off a bad gas which is detrimental to the requirements of the good egg.

In figure 3 we see a different formation and this looks like a round ring of a dark colour going right round the egg lengthways.

This is a broken yolk and should be removed. Afterwards break that egg and see for yourself exactly what caused that dark ring, it will be better information for you than my telling you in this article.

Next look at figure 4. This is an egg that started to incubate but due to some cause such as a weak germ, poor broody, wrong heat of the machine, started but died. It will be noticed as a dark blotchy mass inside that when the egg is gently shaken will move about inside the egg and here is a further tip for the novice. If the mass inside remains firm and when the egg is turned on to its side it very slowly comes to the top, this is a live germ and must be put back in the machine but if when you are a new hand at testing you are uncertain mark it with a "D" for further reference when the next test is done. Now we come to figure 5. This is an egg on the 15th day which it will be noted has a fairly large air cell at the top and if watched when under the tester it will be noted the convulsive movements of the chick inside which is the respiratory movements.

Figure 6 shows the egg in its various stages of 'drying down' and on the 19th day in the case of eggs that have a strong embryo chick up to as long as 22 days with a weakling, a slight crack or 'star' has been made somewhere around the top of the egg just below the line of the aircell and this has been made by the beak of the chick, from now on until the hatch is over we should not under any circumstances interfere with the hen or open the machine.

For the novice that has had no experience of testing prior to this article let him first try with a sitting of desi eggs and you will soon find that it is really after all very simple.

The teacher was trying to inculate observation by means of examples on the black board. After several fruitless attempts, she wrote 2 lines as follows :—

"A chicken has three legs."

"Who done it ?"

Then she turned to her class, and said "now Tommy, in each of these sentences there is a mistake. I want you to tell me what they are". After a long pause Tommy blurted out "Please, Miss, nobody done it. Gawd done it."

He : "I never use broody hens. My chickens are hatched by incubators, reared by battery brooders, and there you are !"

She : "How interesting. Why, in the near future one can imagine there will be NO USE AT ALL for the hen !!"

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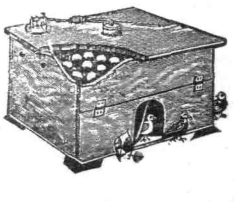

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12.

PRACTICAL MONTHLY ADVICE TO POULTRY KEEPERS.

A few more hints on incubation.

If you are using hens give them the opportunity of a good dust bath about every 3rd day after they have been sitting about a week.

Ten minutes should suffice for the hen to have a good bath, a feed etc. when she should go back on to the eggs.

In the colder hill stations be careful that if the hen is off for any length of time and the temperature of the room is under 45 degrees that the eggs do not get chilled down. They can be covered with a piece of flannel.

On the plains after the first ten days if the room temperature is 70 degrees as it often is don't worry if the hen is off five minutes longer.

Good hatches very often result when a hen has left her nest for as long as two hours after the 10th day, so if the hen gets off and is lost some time don't give it up, keep her going when found and you are likely to have quite a good hatch.

An instance in Bengal was noted last year where a hen was off for six hours on the 14th day and yet 11 out of 13 was the result.

Similarly with an incubator, if you note the temperature has dropped during the night bring it back to normal and run it a degree or so above normal for an hour or so and if the germ is strong good hatches will nearly always result.

Similarly if the temperature has risen more than 3-4 degrees just open up and cool down for 20 minutes or so and trust to luck as it is probable that many have not been baked.

If you contemplate buying a machine for the first time do not forget to ask the seller for a suitable capsule for the altitude you are living at as often a capsule suitable for the plains will not do for an altitude of 6,000 feet.

In a new machine it is advisable to have 2 or 3 thermometers put in different parts of the machine so that you can check up the heat in various corners etc.

When the hatch is coming out leave them to it until they are ready for transfer to the brooder and 24 hours is a good time to leave chicks in the machine before transferring to the brooder.

Once transferred to the brooder they need little feed for the first 2 or 3 days and the best food for the first feed is a little Morton's medium ground oatmeal a twelve anna tin will last 50 chicks for the first week.

Next months advice will contain a few hints on the first month of the chicks life.

All India Show fund.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Previously acknowledged	...	464	8	0
Government of Bengal	...	200	0	0
The U. P. P. A. ...	...	200	0	0
Mr. T. Corbet ...	...	5	0	0
Anon ...	...	15	0	0
		884	8	0

We are still very much short of what is needed to insure success and appeal to members to give the show all the assistance they can. (Editor).

Go Easy With Mash.

When the combs of the pullets begin to redden there is not much that you can do to keep them from starting to lay. If they are to be held back it must be done before that.

If your pullets are developing too rapidly, start feeding scratch grain, gradually increasing it to about 15 pounds for each 100 birds. Keep them growing so that they will have stout bones, full feathering and deep yellow colour in beak and shanks before they begin to lay. Many poultrymen have found it a good plan to keep grain in hoppers before them all the time.

Do you realise that your pullets will be laying in a few more weeks ? They need oyster shell or a high grade limestone to complete their bone growth and to make those first egg shells. Keep it before them now.

Think out the cause.

Few people stop to study out the connection between certain conditions and the results that such conditions may bring about, but it is time well spent in doing this, for then you can profit by experience year after year.

There are many poultry-keepers who, after looking over their flocks, know little more about their actual conditions than before, but these people are not practical poultrymen, just poultry-keepers.

The poultry business is a science. Practical poultrymen study their flocks and all the surrounding conditions, and when you have become thoroughly familiar with them you will know how to control the various factors that ensure success. If changing one condition does not produce the desired effect, make other changes until the right combination is obtained, as indicated by practical common sense.

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Pills for Turkey chicks during their infancy to pull them through their infant ailments.

Apply A. G. Roberts,

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2.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

"DEAR SIR,

Recently I had placed an order for 7 White Leghorn Pullets and a Cockerel with Mr. J. Eatwell of Lucknow. I am glad to inform you that he sent me very fine birds and for a very reasonable price too. I was also very pleased with the way he had packed the birds, as the crate made for them was made regardless of expense and he had devoted every care to their being comfortable. When the birds arrived, they were as fresh as when they had left. I find that in dealing with Mr. Eatwell, one gets his money's worth." I trust you will be able to publish this in the Gazette.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) J. SYMONDS.

Poona. 15th October, 1931.

DEAR SIR,

I shall be grateful if you would kindly publish the following in the October Indian Poultry Gazette.

I find my old friend Mr. Mushtaq of Rohtak, Punjab, a very enthusiastic Committee Member of the Asil Club, is advocating the appointment of the Judge for the Asil Section from different provinces of India on the ground that the standard for the Asil differs in different parts of the country.

This is a strange argument and I am afraid cannot be supported by sound reasons.

Before saying anything about it I, with due regard to my friend, wish to point out that a Judge who is not fully conversant with the size and weight of the different types of Asil is not a true judge at all in my humble opinion.

There may be a Judge who is not able to satisfy an individual breeder because that breeder does not fully know the standard on which Asils should be judged, but a Judge, who himself is not aware of the different types, I should never say standard because standard is always one for a particular breed, should certainly never act as a Judge.

My opinion is, as I have already pointed it out in a previous article of mine on "Judging the Asil," that the only criterion for judging an Asil is fighting. Since that is not possible in a poultry show, one has to depend on appearance to a certain extent. Certainly there is a standard for all Asils, and the type, size, or a weight of different birds in different provinces has nothing to do with standard, which is one and the same, I may repeat, in every province or country for such an old breed as Asils. Of course, if it is suggested that Judges should be appointed in rotation from different provinces of India simply for the sake of appointing them in rotation it is a different matter.

I quite admit that there are big and small types of Asils and a Judge should look at them from different point of views: I am sure an expert would always do so. The Hyderabad type, for instance, is a huge bird but it is not its size that will determine his good points but its shape, bone, head points, tail, and carriage etc.

If a certain Judge is unable to satisfy another Judge it never follows that a Judge who criticised another gentleman is necessarily wrong. There may be something wanting in that particular Judge, and therefore it is not the fault of the Judge who criticised him. Nor it is the fault of the All India Show Committee. The best method is to leave it to the Asil Club, which is the right body to control these affairs.

If any individual breeder has any complaints the best thing is to lodge a protest at the Show and get his grievances redressed. If a Judge has made a mistake he is bound to rectify it, and if he does not do so, he does not play the game.

It is said in the article under reference that I criticise a certain Judge in the Indian Poultry Gazette. The Asil cause is most dear to me and if I find a wrong is done in my opinion I consider it my moral duty to right it. I do not remember to have criticised any Judgment except once in a Provincial Poultry Show at Meerut and not the All India. That was no criticism of a Judge but that of the Show procedure in amalgamating certain classes.

The best Asil has been produced by the U. P. specially Rampore, Amroha, and Lucknow: also some States have very good birds, like Tonk, and there are also persons who think that Hyderabad State possesses excellent birds. I have never heard or seen in any poultry book, and I have consulted some thirty-five about Asils both English and Vernacular, that the Hyderabad type is noted for endurance. The Punjab has a bigger type of bird and that should be judged accordingly.

It is up to the Asil Club to draw up a proper standard for the Asils and not the All India Show Committee, and I would suggest that a meeting of the Asil Club be held for this purpose during the All India Show at Calcutta this year and my friend Mr. Mushtaq should give us the pleasure of his attendance.

If a certain breeder does not exhibits his birds because he thinks a certain Judge will not be able to do justice to the task entrusted to him, I am afraid, that is not the right policy: you must come forward and if your birds are really good Asils see that they win, and protest if you do not, provided your cause is strong and you can support it by reason.

I hope Mr. Mushtaq will not fail to exhibit more birds this year than what he did last show as he sent a few and got one First on his Breeding Pair.

NUR-UL-ISLAM,

Assistant Secretary,
U. P. Poultry Association, and Hony Secretary
and Treasurer Asil Club.

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Light Sussex. Sittings from Winner Harper Adams Trials. 1st Prize, England. Rs. **20/-** per dozen.

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Rs 10/- and Rs 8/- each.

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Eggs:—From General Pens Rs. **6/-** dozen, Special Pens Rs. **12/-**, Extra Special Rs **20/-**, Super Special Rs. **25/-** dozen.

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My pen of WHITE LEGHORNS is headed by a cock whose sire's dam laid 322 eggs in twelve months. Eggs Rs. **12/-** per dozen.

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A £5 PRIZE.

Maintain the stamina and quality of "Sperrin" strains by keeping them pure. We offer each year a cockerel value £5 as special for best bird at All India show bred in India from our strains, with no outcrossing. If you cannot import, then enquire conditions and purchase eggs from those who have our imported stock. Geo. Howard.

Conditions under which special prize value £5 will be granted by Mr. Howard, Sperrin Poultry Farm, Langley, Hitchin.

(*a*) Cockerel value £5 to be given to exhibitor owning the bird judged to be the Best Bird exhibited at the All India Poultry Show and which has been bred in India from pure 'Sperrin' strains, *i.e.* where both sire and dam are pure Sperrin birds.

(*b*) Exhibitors to notify on their entry forms to the Show Secretary any bird that is eligible for this award.

(*c*) The cockerel will be sent out to India the following season in time for the following All India Show and must be entered for that show by the winner.

(*d*) Winner to name breed required, and need not necessarily be same breed as that of bird that won, provided breed required is one that is stocked by the "Sperrin" Poultry Farm.

(*e*) All expenses to Indian port will be paid by donor. Collection and onward charges from Port to be paid by winner.

(*f*) The value of cockerel (£5) is that of bird delivered at Indian port, and will be of similar grade to those exported with £10 and £12 trios.

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Highly commended by Poultry Farmers.

A sure remedy in cases of Diarrhoea, Cholera, Pneumonia Ranikhet, etc.

Price Rs. **2/-** per packet.

Eggs from choicest Asils Rs. **18/-** per doz.

Live stock also available.

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The finest stock available in England, landed 1st October 1930.

Cockerel whose dam and sire's dam laid 525/528 eggs in 24 months, heading a pen of 10 hens with records of 270/288 eggs in 12 months.

Eggs (2 ozs. and over)

Rs. **18/-** per dozen.

Mrs. R. POWELL,

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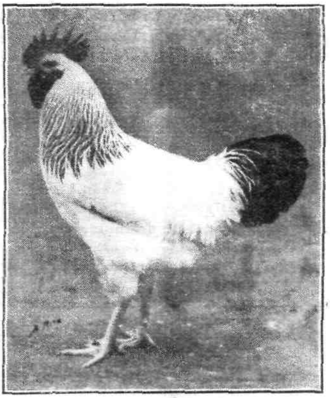
NATURAL INCUBATION AND BROODING.

Some Useful-Advice on Treatment of Hens and Chicks.

By James Hadlington (Late Poultry Expert to New South Wales).

There is a great army of poultry-keepers who are almost solely dependent upon the humble hen as a means of raising their chickens. The troubles incidental to those rearing chicks by artificial means are numerous and important from the fact that it affects keepers who are dependent upon poultry farming for a living. Big losses are, therefore, a serious, matter to them. Nevertheless, the small poultry-keeper has a definite place in the scheme of things; and moreover, the small operator of to-day may become the big one of the future.

The first difficulty met with in natural hatching and rearing is that of scarcity of broody hens, while the next is their unreliability, as a rule, until the advent of warmer weather. From now onward, when the hatching season should be drawing to a close, there are generally broodies in plenty; thus the small poultry-keeper is handicapped in the matter of early chickens, and this provides the reason why artificial hatching and rearing is so much in vogue, and not because it is the better method.



LIGHT SUSSEX COCKEREL.
By kind permission of "Poultry World".

Unwelcome Visitors.

Most of the troubles incidental to artificial rearing are escaped by the small poultry-keeper who uses hens, but he has a set of troubles all to himself. One of the first is that the warmth of the weather, which encourage the broodies, also bring into prominence an unwelcome company in the form of parasite life, and unless this is kept under control very little success is possible in rearing with hens.

The troubles arising from this source are not perhaps as well understood as they should be. It is not the broody hens as such that bring these parasites into being, but the fact that the parasites were there before the hen became broody. The fact is that the sitting hen is a convenient host for the small, spidery-looking mite so well known to poultry-keepers. What is not so generally known, however, is that the red mite which infests the cracks and crevices about the perches is the cause of all the trouble. Keep the houses clean from this mite and your sitting hens will also be free.

Having averted or overcome this ever-present possibility, there is still another to be on the watch for when the chicks are hatching. This is the likely appearance of the head louse on the chickens, sometimes within a week, but at any time, mostly within three weeks of the chicks being hatched. On the appearance of the slightest signs of mopiness or drooping wings, a close examination of the heads will probably reveal the cause.

Should this parasite be found, the head and under the throat of every chicken should be very lightly smeared with olive oil. Nothing stronger should be used, or they may be ruined, nor should the oil be used in excess of the slightest smear. On no account allow the oil to smear or soil the chick's feathers except those smeared. Repeat the application in about a week's time and the trouble will in all probability be over. All the same, a watch should be kept for a reappearance of it.

When Weaning Time Comes.

The next trouble likely to occur is when the chickens are taken from the hens. It is best to do the reverse, and take the hens from the chickens. Presuming that the hen has been confined to a coop or pen, if the hen is taken away the chicks will remain in the locality, and go to their camping box at night, whether the hen is there or not. But try to do the reverse and one's trouble begins. Once the chickens have become reconciled to doing without the hen it is a simple matter to move them to new or strange quarters.

Things Needed to Attain Success.

After a breeder has a good working knowledge of the possibilities of scientific information in regard to inheritance and line breeding, he still has to apply this information in a practical way. To do this requires carefully kept records on many individuals in each family of the potential strain. A breeder must build this information for himself, and he must bear in mind that he cannot breed for too many different characteristics at one time. One by one each characteristic must be established. Vigour, egg production, egg size, Standard quality, non-broodiness, hatchability of eggs and livability of chicks offer a fine breeding programme for any young breeder and it will take many seasons to throughly establish the potency of all these characteristics in a strain.

ALL INDIA POULTRY EXHIBITION.

Calcutta, 11th, 12th, 13th December 1931.

From the many letters received, I am of the opinion that we shall see many more breeds at the exhibition than for many a year. Nothing gives greater popularity to any show than a larger variety of exhibits. Keenness is infused all round, and tends to make the scarcer breeds more popular with the amateur fancier.

It is interesting to note that our appeal for more exhibitors from Madras, Bombay and Burma has not gone unheard, as there will be many birds from these provinces. Exhibitors from Burma will be pleased to know that through the untiring efforts of the H. E. Governor of Burma, the various shipping companies will allow birds to travel on their boats from Burma to Calcutta and return at single rates. In previous years many fanciers from Burma have been denied the pleasure of Exhibiting at Calcutta owing to the prohibitive costs.

I have found great difficulty this year in fixing judges for the show. Most of those well known to us are either exhibiting, or out of India on leave. However, exhibitors may rest assured that everything will be done to get the best judges available. In a country so large as India, it is practically impossible for members to vote for their choice of judges. The question of expense must take first consideration, and again, whether the selected judge would be available to make the long trip.

It has been decided that instead of giving only one prize in each of the 'open specials' that a silver medal be presented to the winner, and a bronze medal to the runner-up. This will make 2 prizes instead one, and will give exhibitors more satisfaction. Certifiicates of Merit will also be awarded in breed class awards.

This will be the last opportunity of giving readers information about the show, and I make a final appeal to all breeders, to either send their bird up for competition or of making a donation towards the show fund.

(Signed) W. E. J. YULE.

Hony. Show Secretary

INDIA'S BEST

THE CHASHARA WHITE LEGHORNS.

"A Typical Chashara Leghorn."

This Year's Special Offer.

I am importing through MR. HOWARD one of the finest Leghorn cockerels seen in England for many years and from January onwards a few sittings from the pen headed by this bird will be available at Rs. 12/- for 8 eggs.

See him at the ALL INDIA and Judge for yourself.

A record to be proud of, The **Chashara Leghorns** have now a six years reputation without a single dissatisfied customer.

A. O. FODEN,
Chashara,
Narayangunge, E. B.

? ? ?

Questions under this heading are answered free of charge on this page.

Letters should be addressed—BUFF ROCK,
C/o. The Hon. Editor, I. P. GAZETTE and marked "Query".

Where readers desire an individual reply they should enclose a stamped addressed envelope and a fee of As. -/8/- is charged.

Mr. T. Asansol. Now that the bird has come on to lay I think I am confirmed in my reply to you last month. I have seen a minorca lay a tinted, though not pronounced tint, egg and the size also colour of the egg proves that it is not a pure bred minorca nor yet leghorn. I think you have a desi cross bird.

Mr. H. Delhi. There is no pain in this operation whatever and it is far better and less trouble than using rings which have to be changed at least twice during the growing period which in itself is a big job if you have to re-ring 2 to 3 hundred pullets.

Once a chick is punched on being handed over to the brooder that is the last you need worry about it if the hole is clean and you have simply to refer to your tally book to see which is which strain etc.

Mrs. L. Calcutta. I think if you feed the following your bird will come along quick enough to be ready for the show though at its age it should be at the top of its form now. It must be a weakling or neglected as a chick to be so late in maturing.

Feed as at present,

Also 10 a.m. Some warm bread and milk about as much as it will eat in 5 minutes.

Noon. About 1 oz. of chopped lean beef scrap.

2 p.m. Another feed of bread and milk.

If possible give fresh skimmed milk to drink in place of water or add to the water about 10 drops of phospherine to one pint.

Mr. B. The mash formula is much too concentrated and will tend to make your birds fat and lazy. Keep the same ratio of the four first ingredients but in place of 2 parts Wheat Bran make it 4 parts. Salt about 1 oz. to 2 seers or 1/64th of the total mash.

Mr. L. Calcutta. I should certainly not advise you to hatch now for your aims as this breed matures in 6 months and would be an old and worn out bird by then. Allow seven months and as they grow keep careful watch as to if they are maturing too early and check them a bit or if too slow bring them forward quicker.

The majority of people in Calcutta situated as you are hatch in March but they pay particular attention to the rearing of the chicks as heat is detrimental to their correct growth.

Mr. F. Sadaya. I would suggest the following.

1 part Paddy.
2 ,, Wheat.
1 ,, Split Red Dhall.
½ ,, cracked maize.

Feed 1½ ozs. per bird first feed in the morning and last feed at night.

A dry mash which can be kept in front of the birds for 2 hours from 8 to 10 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m. can be made of the following.

2 parts Ata.
3 ,, Wheat Bran.
1 ,, Gram Meal.
1 ,, Ground rice.

It is a pity you cannot obtain other foodstuffs where you are but if you intend to go in for a number of birds why not send down to one of the nearest towns for a quantity and mix a big supply all at once ?

Mr. P. Jamshedpur. Please communicate with the Hon Show Secretary, at 2 Fancy Lane. Calcutta.

Mr. B. Kidderpore. The Chittagong is not at present a standardised breed and I am afraid I cannot give you the information you wish for as there are three or four different colour combinations.

There is a Club being formed to further the interests of this breed but I am not sure of the authority to whom to advise you to write. I would suggest you write the Hon. Secretary as he may be able to give you the address required.

Postal replies forwarded to Mr. Simmons, Biswa and Field.